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201-299292
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From: Havana, Cuba		Report No: TCH-957 Local File No: 10-19
No. of Pages: -1-		No. of Enclosures: None
Report Made By: G.M. SOCKE-VILLE/a/m		Approved By: G.M. SOCKE-VILLE <i>Conf</i>
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COMMENTS

This office has not reported specifically on the FEU during the past several weeks because little has transpired. It is likely that within the next few weeks the election problem will be cleared up.

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201-299292

19-42-415

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Subject: Incidents Such as Killing Report No: **TEH-957**
 of Gustavo MEJIA (September 1949)
 Force Continued Postponement of
 FEU Elections.

Date of Information: September 1949
 Date Acquired: September 23, 1949
 Date of Report: 24 September 1949

Place Acquired: Havana, Cuba
 Evaluation: B-1

Source: **AMBIVALENT**

RECENT INCIDENTS
RECENT INCIDENTS

1. The FEU which should by now have completed its election in the thirteen schools is in a state of complete disorganization. Although a new president to succeed Enrique OVALLES was to have been elected in August, a series of incidents have postponed elections in two of the thirteen schools. These two schools now have provisional presidents which has delayed the election of a University Council.
2. The recent police raid on the Agronomy School has complicated the situation since José ~~ROSCU~~ who was arrested at that time, was President of the School of Agronomy and a candidate for the FEU presidency.
3. ~~Roscu~~ President of the School of Medicine, and Baudilio CASTELLANOS, President of the Law School, were also detained after the killing of Gustavo MEJIA, who was President of the Alumni Association of the Social Sciences School.
4. Students of the schools affected will have to call meetings to ratify the position of the provisional presidents and to take some action concerning those schools where the president has been placed under police detention.
5. Communists have two strong leaders in Walterio CARBONELL, a colored student of the Law School and Lionel SOTO, President of the Philosophy and Literature School.

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SEP 24 1949

Classification

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201-299292

17-4-2-411

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From: Habana, Cuba. Report No: TKN-079. Local File No: 10-10.
 No. of Pages: 2. No. of Enclosures: 0.
 Report Made By: G.H. Somerville/cdl Approved By: George H. Somerville
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 Source Cryptonym: AMBIVALENT References: None.
 Source, Operational Data, and Comments:

COMMENTS

Beyond any doubt the FEU is badly organized at the present time. This office has not reported the student arrests referred to in the body of this report as the action taken by the Government was purely overt. It is certain that effective aid or counsel given the FEU leaders during the next few weeks by anti-communists would be of real significance in the future course of FEU activities.

201-299292
 104-10164-10047

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104-10164-10047

BUP

FORM NO. 1
FEB 1964 51-00

~~CC~~
 Subject: FEU Badly Disrupted on Eve Report No: TKN-979.
 of Elections Scheduled for
 November 1949.

Date of Information: Oct 1949.

Place Acquired: Habana, Cuba.

Date Acquired: 4-17-21 Oct 1949.

Evaluation: B-2.

Date of Report: 27 Oct 1949.

Source: ALBIVALENT

1. The recent arrests of many of its leaders has completely demoralized the FEDERACION ESTUDIANTIL UNIVERSITARIA (FEU) which has now scheduled elections for its Central Committee for November 1949. The anti-communist group retains control of seven of the University's thirteen schools. The Communists have adequate control in four or five of the other six and claim that they control all six of them.
2. Leonel SOTO, Alfredo GUEYARA and Baubillo CASTELLANOS, formerly anti-Communists, now are considered leaders of the left side. Pedro MIRAZU, Orlando Bosch, both of whom are under arrest, Jose M. ROIZ, Bel JUAREZ and Enrique OVARES, who appears to have lined himself up definitely with the anti-Communists after a long period of indecision, are among the principal leaders of the anti-Communist faction.
3. There has been a more or less clearly defined break between these two groups as a result of the recent student arrests. OVARES feels that the FEU has the moral obligation to defend MIRAZU, BOSCH and other student leaders. The Communist faction, which is in the happy position of having denounced gangsterism in the FEU for some time, is against coming to the defense of the arrested leaders. This cleavage has resulted in a series of press releases by several FEU leaders on both sides which have been in the news daily.
4. Meantime, the FEU is completely disrupted on the eve of its November elections, and the FEU University Council has not been able to exercise control over the student body. Almost half of the thirteen schools are now without presidents and elections will have to be held in these several schools before the Consejo Directivo can be named in November.

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FORM NO. 100 1-50

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
 201-299282
 11-4-2-734
 REGISTRY COPY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Report No. TFE-379.
27 Oct 1949.

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5. The Communist youth leaders have a present advantage as they can point to their past attacks on gangsterism in the FEU. They originally opposed this type of activity because it was often directed against themselves, and was under the control of acknowledged anti-Communists. The death of student leader, ~~ELIAS~~, and the subsequent arrests now permit the Communists to point to their past opposition to such activities, ~~to their great advantage~~. This comes simultaneously with a general student body feeling that the FEU should not concern itself with such problems as the recent boosting of bus fares. The Communist leaders have also begun a popular campaign in opposition to the proposed loan in which they have been joined by a great many non-Communist groups in opposition to the government. ~~XXXX~~ ~~Aramis TABOADA~~, a relatively unimportant FEU leader, is organizing popular manifestations against the loan.
6. Although the Communist strength in each school is numerically weak, it is well organized and the anti-Communists, faced with an early election, fear that the present disorganization may result in additional control for the Communist faction. This has caused the anti-Communists some concern, but it is too early to tell what the results will be in November as they will depend almost entirely upon who is elected to the presidency of the several schools ~~between now and then~~ and upon student activity during the next few weeks. It is during these weeks that the anti-Communists could by hard work eliminate nearly all of the Communists from the Consejo Directivo. If they do not work energetically, Communists may regain some of the seven schools now in the hands of anti-Communists.

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X of SC 26733

X of SC 30145

XXX ~~Index Comments~~ This change has been made.
 in a number of your publications by several
 FEU leaders in both schools which
 have been in the news lately.
 XXX ~~Index Comments~~

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From: Report No: Local File No: 100-15.
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 Report Made By: Marcelo D. Elvira Approved By: George W. [unclear]
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(1972)
 Source Classification: References: SYN-007, SYN-079.

Source, Operational Data, and Comments:

COMMENTS

References discussed some of the developments at the University during September and October and referred to the Agronomy School raid, the killing in mid-September of the student and the resultant raids by the police on the School of Agronomy, when arms were confiscated and 15 persons were arrested (10 of whom were later sentenced to short prison terms) were shortly followed by the arrest of some 75 individuals under the "Ley de Sanato-ismo" and accused of belonging to illicit organizations and of "gangsterism". Among those arrested was Orlando [unclear], President of the School of Medicine student delegation, who was one of ten of the latter group sentenced to one year in prison. This created a great deal of furor among the third or revolutionary group mentioned in this report, and also led to the creation by the pro-communist second group of the GRUPE 30 DE SEPTIEMBRE as a basis for protest of the arrest of BOUCH and two other students.

These happenings were in part responsible for the changes made by the University Council in the election regulations, and the Council's action brought about the quarrels that resulted in splitting up the student body.

The raids, the arrests, trials and later developments at the University have been partially covered by the press but the Embassy, to date, has not reported on this situation. It is believed that Headquarters should be cognizant of the inner workings of the various University factions as outlined by

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FORM NO. 100-100 01-00

201-299292
194-2-444

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Student elections, Havana
 25 Nov 49, Postnormal
 Subject: Suspension indefinitely of
 University of Havana is result of
 Differences between Council
 tions and University Council.
 Place Acquired: Habana, Cuba.
 Report No: 77-1090.
 Date of Information: Nov 1949.
 Date Acquired: 14-21 Nov 1949.
 Evaluation: Pars. 1-6 & 13, 15. Date of Report: 25 Nov 1949.
 Source: AMBIVALENT Pars. 1-6 incl., 13.
 PRESS Pars. 1-6 incl., 13.

1. During the last few weeks at the University of Havana, a virtual chaos has reigned as three groups--pro-Catholic, pro-student and anti-communist or revolutionary.
2. The first group has adopted the name PRO-DIGNIDAD UNIVERSITARIA and is using as its slogan "Pro-Dignidad Universitaria". From which has come the popular name used in reference to the group, PRO-DIGNIDAD. This group has agreed to submit to new regulations approved by the University Council in relation to requirements for student officers, with the one exception that the regulations should be amended to include direct voting by the students for the Student Executive Council. PRO-DIGNIDAD will submit their own candidates for council. PRO-DIGNIDAD will be scheduled for 25 November 1949 in the elections, scheduled by the University Council.
3. The second group of pro-communists is led by Leonel RODRIGUEZ, communist President of the School of Philosophy and Letters; Francisco MAVILA, School of Philosophy and the School of Dentistry; AGUIRRE, pro-communist President of acting President of the School of Medicine; CLAUDIO, pro-communist for Orlando BOSSCH who is still under arrest; INGRAUSTESUI, pro-communist acting President of the School of Social Sciences substituting for JOSE GARCIA of Social Sciences substituting for Pedro BRASSON also under arrest; Baudilio MAVILA for Pedro BRASSON also President of the School of MAVILA, now pro-communist. Like the first group, the regulations of the University complete accord with the new regulations of the University Council, especially in regard to the manner of voting. Nevertheless, they will also participate in the 25 November elections, submitting their own list of candidates.
4. The third group, anti-communist or revolutionaries, which constitutes a majority of the FEU counting among them several Directors Council of the FEU counting among them several of the school presidents.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

25 Nov 49 11-00

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Report No: FEU-1000.

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Date 25 Feb 1949.

has refused to cooperate in the coming elections and has announced that they will hold separate elections on the 26th of November, the day following that set by the University Council. The reason for this stand is the same one given by the other two groups, i.e., elections to the Executive Council should be by direct vote of the student body rather than by delegates of each school, and voting should be made obligatory for all students. Enrique OVARÉS, President of the 21, is the leading figure in this group, and he and his friends have been the cause of much of the disorder that has existed in the University during the last few months.

5. The University Council, upon receipt of the announcement of non-participation of the third group, stated that any but the authorized elections would be declared null and void. The statutes setting up University autonomy provide that elections of school delegates to be valid must be held in the presence of the professors of the individual schools, and that elections for President of the school must be held in the presence of the Dean of that school.
6. On 12 November the third group called a general meeting of the student body to protest the elections. This was a complete failure with only a handful of the students turning out for it. OVARÉS announced the meeting canceled and urged the students to another general meeting on 23 November.
7. The University Council on 23 November announced that the election rules and the election date would not be changed. The general meeting of FEU was held the same day in the Plaza del Rector Cadonaz at the University, following the announcement of the University Council. Leonel SOTO addressed the students, pointing out that the new regulations, especially Article 10, were illegal. Baudilio CASTELLANOS and Agustín CLAVIJO also spoke and Enrique OVARÉS, seconding the motion of Benito PESADA for action rather than words, directed the students to take over the schools. This was done immediately and the students occupied eight of the schools within a short time.
8. This action was publicly opposed by PRO DIGNIDAD because they claimed (a) the meeting was called for all students but the representatives of all groups were not allowed to state their stand prior to the outbreak of violence; (b)

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Report No. 75-10047

Date 10 Nov 1955

The validity of the demands was not in question. The University Council (UC) had decided to postpone the elections for the 25th of November. The UC had also decided to postpone the elections for the 25th of November. Therefore, the action of the University in postponing the elections was illegal.

9. Later the same day, 23 November, the University Council held hearings to the various factions' complaints. Armando ~~represented~~ represented the revolutionary group of the PUE. He stated their opposition to the new regulations and suggested other changes to be made in the University. Hector Clemente in turn replied that the students had been invited to present their case merely out of courtesy and that other matters could not be considered at this time.
10. Also heard was an independent group from the School of Law who, like the PUE, agreed to accept the scheduled elections but insisted they could continue to work for amendments to the election rules. Another group from the School of Philosophy and Letters stated before the University Council that, although they were not entirely in accord with the PUE directors, they would join in any strike led by them for the modification of the regulations.
11. The PUE then submitted in writing their demands containing 14 points, among them the change in election system, necessity for unanimous approval of officials, postponement of elections to 10 December, and a number of other clauses that concern the operation of the University.
12. The next day, 24 November, the PUE still had control of six of the eight schools taken and the University Council announced that elections scheduled for the 25th would not be held and that all classes were suspended to prevent violence. The Council decided to remain in permanent session but no date was set for the elections.
13. The students are aware that the leaders of both PUE factions, the revolutionaries and the pro-communists, are principally responsible for the school scandals; that not only student organizations but the students themselves have been damaged by the foolish and lawless tactics of those leaders; and that scholastic progress cannot be made so long as the present situation exists. Although the revolutionaries, with the help of the communists, were successful in their attempt to postpone the elections,

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Date 10/10/50

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The majority of students are also and tired of the class
system and are looking for a way to change it. They
have, unfortunately, fallen in line with the
policy of violence of the University Council. The
University Council, the communists, when they realized
the unpopularity of the F-1 group, joined forces
with the F-1 group in an attempt to defeat F-1.
Although this combination of F-1 leaders continues to call
themselves F-1, in actuality that organization as repre-
sentative of the student body no longer exists.

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101-299292
79-4-2-441

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From: ELMER, CID Report on: TEE-575 Local File No: 10-19

No. of Pages: _____ No. of Attachments: None

Report made by: GEORGE E. SCHMIDT Approved by: GEORGE E. SCHMIDT

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Source Cryptonym: ADIVALLIST References: TKH-560

Source, Operational Data, and Comments:

Summary

Developments within the Federación Estudiantil Universitaria (FEU) at this time are of continuing interest. The organization itself receives a great deal of day to day publicity in view of its campaign against the high cost of living and the bus fare situation in particular. It appears obvious that the PARTIDO SOCIALISTA POPULAR (PSP), which has not had very much luck in the past few months, has finally found an organization which it hopes to be able to conquer by infiltration and thereafter dictate its policy. Later developments will be reported.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~FORM NO. 61-60
FEB 1960

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201-299292
19-4-20

Political Matter
 Subject: ~~Federación Estudiantil~~
 Universitaria (FEU)

Report of: TKN-375

Date of information: October 23, 1948

Place acquired: Habana, Cuba

Date acquired: October 25, 1948

Collection: P-3

Date of report: October 26, 1948

Source: Paragraph 1 - TKN-560 (AMBIVALENT)
 Paragraph 2 - The Press
 Paragraphs remaining - AMBIVALENT

SYNOPSIS

Enrique OVARES has once more taken over FEU presidency from Justo FUENTES, and several pro-Communist leaders have regained power in FEU. Meetings between FEU leaders and PSP officials have resulted in domination of weak FEU leaders by PSP.

DETAILS

1. It has been recently reported that Justo FUENTES, who had taken over the leadership of the Federación Estudiantil Universitaria (FEU) from Enrique OVARES, was about to lose his post. One of the main reasons was that he had been unable to control FEU handling of the bus fare problem which had come principally under control of FEU leaders who follow the PANTIDO SOCIALISTA POPULAR (PSP) line.
2. FUENTES was removed from the presidency. "Pueblo" newspaper, as late as 7 October 1948, referred to him as the president; but "Hoy" for 17 October has a long statement on the bus fare situation signed by Justo FUENTES CLAVEL, Vice President of the FEU. "Pueblo" of 14 October 1948 noted that Enrique OVARES, who had been enjoying a vacation, had once more taken over the presidency.
3. Not only did Enrique OVARES take over the presidency, but other student leaders who have followed the PSP line appeared to have gained ascendancy once more. Alfredo GUEVARA once again occupies the post of Secretary of Foreign Relations of the FEU, to which post he is not properly entitled.
4. On October 15, a group of FEU leaders had a conference with PRIO concerning the bus fare situation, and among the FEU delegates were Orlando BOSCH, Gustavo MENJAS, Pedro MIRAZU, and Baudillo CASTELLANOS, all of whom have been previously

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FORM NO. 81-20
 FEB 1946

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TIC-775
October 20, 1948

considered anti-Communist. However, Lionel LOTA, Arnaldo LACAL, and Alfredo FERRER were also delegates, and these individuals are considered to be pro-Communist. It had therefore become apparent by this time that the anti-Communists did not have as complete control of all FEU offices as they had had before the bus fare problem arose.

5. The principal reason for the loss of control has been the willingness of FERRER and other FEU leaders to meet with LOTA, LACAL, and other PSP officials in a joint effort to combat the bus fare increase. It has recently been reported that FERRER enlarged these discussions to include national problems that would interest the students as much as the workers.

6. These reunions have continued, and LOTA is reported to have remarked at such a recent meeting that there were many problems that called for the attention of "progressive and civic forces". He suggested the organization of committees composed of the same groups that had fought so well against the bus fare increase--that is, the FEU, the PSP, some of the PNC Ortodoxos of Eduardo CHIRAS, and students of the secondary schools, in order that these committees could turn their attention to other problems as soon as the Omnibus Aliados question is dissolved. They have already announced a campaign against high electric charges. In general, the entire attack against the high cost of living has permitted the PSP to take over civic movements which have some merit and which were instituted by anti-Communists.

7. A meeting is presently planned for 26 October 1948 in Parque Central and this meeting, as well as other similar activities, will only bring closer together FEU and PSP officials. The anti-Communists connected with the FEU still hope to regain control, but they suffer at the present time from weak leaders who have played into the hands of the Communists.

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